

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 INRE-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 234542

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, MX

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: US-MEXICO NEGOTIATION

REF: STEINMETZ/HAYNE TELECON 9/28/77

1. AFTER A WEEK AND A HALF OF STRENUOUS NEGOTIATIONS, MEXDEL ON SEPTEMBER 28 ANNOUNCED THAT IT MUST RETURN TO MEXICO IMMEDIATELY FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT DEPARTMENT, RETURN OF MEXDEL WAS PRECIPITATED BY MEXICANA AIRLINE'S PRESIDENT SOSA DE LA VEGA, WHO HAS APPARENTLY PERSUADED MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION THAT MEXDEL WAS MAKING TOO MANY CONCESSIONS AT THE EXPENSE OF HIS AIRLINE. MEXDEL WAS THEREUPON ORDERED TO RETURN. THEY WILL ARRIVE MEXICO ON SEPT 29.

2. ALTHOUGH NO AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED, DIFFERENCES
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HAVE BEEN NARROWED SIGNIFICANTLY. SOME PROBLEMS REMAIN WITH REGARD TO PACIFIC COAST ROUTES, TRANSBORDER POINTS, BEYOND RIGHTS, AND THE MIAMI-MEXICO CITY NONSTOP ROUTE. HOWEVER, USDEL HAS MADE SEVERAL PROPOSALS WHICH SHOULD ALLEVIATE MEXICAN CONCERNS WITH REGARD TO THESE ISSUES.

3. AT THE CONCLUDING SESSIONS ON SEPT 28, MEXDEL CHAIRMAN

CENDEJAS AND MEXDEL WERE INVITED BY USDEL TO RETURN TO

WASHINGTON ON MON., OCT 3. WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT AN AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED GIVEN A FEW MORE DAYS, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF LATEST US PROPOSALS. PRIOR COMMITMENTS LATER IN THE WEEK PRECLUDE USDEL TRAVEL TO MEXICO. UNLESS THE MEXICO TALKS RESUME ON MONDAY, WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MEET AGAIN UNTIL JANUARY 1978 AS WE ARE FULLY COMMITTED TO OTHER CIVAIR TALKS IN THE INTERIM.

4. IN VIEW OF ABOVE, DEPARTMENT REQUESTS THAT AMBASSADOR APPROACH MINISTER OF TRANSPORT MUJICA TO IMPRESS UPON HIM ADVISABILITY OF RESUMING TALKS IN WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK. TALKING POINTS PARA 5 BELOW SHOULD BE USED.

5. THE RECENT NEGOTIATING SESSION MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN REACHING AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD BE OF SIGNIFICANT BENEFIT TO OVERALL MEXICAN AND US TOURISM AND AIRLINE INTERESTS. SEVERAL KEY PROBLEMS REMAIN, BUT THE US IS WILLING TO ADDRESS THEM IN A FORTHCOMING AND PRAGMATIC MANNER. USDEL HAS ALREADY SUBMITTED PROPOSALS WITH REGARD TO THE SEVERAL REMAINING ISSUES WHICH ARE INTENDED TO MEET MEXICAN CONCERNS. IN VIEW OF THE NARROW GAP REMAINING AND IN THE INTEREST OF PRESERVING NEGOTIATING MOMENTUM, THE USG URGES THAT MEXDEL WOULD RETURN TO WASHINGTON TO RESUME TALKS ON OCT 3. THE USDEL
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WOULD HAVE BEEN READY TO COME TO MEXICO WERE IT NOT FOR PRIOR COMMITMENTS TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE BRITISH THE SAME WEEK (OCT 3). IF TALKS CANNOT BE RESUMED, WE WOULD BE UNABLE TO MEET AGAIN UNTIL NEXT JANUARY IN LIGHT OF OUR NEGOTIATING COMMITMENTS ELSEWHERE.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 29-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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